



**MINUTES FOR THE
CITY OF AUSTIN FIREFIGHTERS', POLICE OFFICERS' AND
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL'S
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 31, 2023**

The Firefighters', Police Officers', and Emergency Medical Services Personnel's Civil Service Commission convened in a Special Called Meeting on Monday, July 31, 2023, at 5202 East Ben White Boulevard, Building 500, Austin TX 78741.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Commission Chair Jolsna Thomas

Commission Vice Chair Farah Ahmed

Staff in Attendance:

Monika Arvelo, Assistant City Attorney

Nathan Brown, Assistant Director

Matthew Chustz, Civil Service Manager

Sarah Williams, Civil Service Coordinator

Cyndi Gordon, Civil Service Coordinator

Tymber Dhans, Civil Service Coordinator

Jennifer Stanko, Municipal Civil Service

Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

Seven members of the public signed up to speak on this item.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes from the Firefighters', Police Officers', and Emergency Medical Services Personnel's Civil Service Commission Special Called Meeting of May 16, 2023.

The minutes from the Special Called Meeting of May 16, 2023, were approved on Vice Chair Ahmeds' motion, Chair Thomas' second on a 2-0 vote.

2. Hear and rule on appeal(s) from the Austin Police Department Sergeant written promotional examination administered on July 17, 2023, pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 143.034 and Rule 7 of the City of Austin Fire Fighters', Police Officers' and Emergency Medical Services Personnel's Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations.

Commission Chair Thomas moved to deny the appeal of exam question 82, and let the question remain as keyed. Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion to deny the appeal of question 82 was approved on a 2-0 vote.

Commission Vice Chair Ahmed moved to approve the appeal of exam question 98, and accept answer A and B as correct. Chair Thomas seconded the motion. The motion to approve the appeal of question 98 was approved on a 2-0 vote.

3. Hear and rule on appeal(s) from the Austin Fire Department Fire Specialist written promotional examination administered on July 18, 2023, pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 143.034 and Rule 7 of the City of Austin Fire Fighters', Police Officers' and Emergency Medical Services Personnel's Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations.

Commission Chair Thomas moved to deny the appeal of exam question 21, and let the question remain as keyed. Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion to deny the appeal of question 21 was approved on a 2-0 vote.

Commission Chair Thomas moved to deny the appeal of exam question 34, and let the question remain as keyed. Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion to deny the appeal of question 34 was approved on a 2-0 vote.

Commission Chair Thomas moved to deny the appeal of exam question 56, and let the question remain as keyed. Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion to deny the appeal of question 56 was approved on a 2-0 vote.

Commission Chair Thomas moved to deny the appeal of exam question 62, and let the question remain as keyed. Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion to deny the appeal of question 62 was approved on a 2-0 vote.

Commission Chair Thomas moved to deny the appeal of exam question 78, and let the question remain as keyed. Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion to deny the appeal of question 78 was approved on a 2-0 vote.

Commission Chair Thomas moved to deny the appeal of exam question 92, and let the question remain as keyed. Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion to deny the appeal of question 92 was approved on a 2-0 vote.

4. Hear and rule on appeal(s) from the Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services (ATCEMS) Clinical Specialist-Field written promotional examination administered on July 11, 2023, pursuant to the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 143.034 and Rule 7 of the City of Austin Fire Fighters', Police Officers' and Emergency Medical Services Personnel's Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations.

Commission Chair Thomas moved to deny the appeal of exam question 12, and let the question remain as keyed. Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion to deny the appeal of question 12 was approved on a 2-0 vote.

Commission Chair Thomas moved to approve the appeal of exam question 16, and accept answers C and D as correct. Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion to approve the appeal of question 16 was approved on a 2-0 vote.

Commission Chair Thomas moved to approve the appeal of exam question 34, and accept only answer B as correct. Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion to approve the appeal of question 34 was approved on a 2-0 vote.

Commission Chair Thomas moved to approve the appeal of exam question 66, and give credit to every candidate. Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion to approve the appeal of question 66 was approved on a 2-0 vote.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding the request of an Austin-Travis County Emergency Medical Services (ATCEMS) candidate to the Commission to appoint three-member boards per Chapter 143.022(c) TLGC for another mental or physical examination. (Jeremy Portales)
The motion to approve the appointment of a three-member board per Chapter 143.022(c) LGC for another mental or physical examination was approved on Chair Thomas' motion, Vic Chair Ahmed's second, on a 2-0 vote.
6. Discussion and possible action regarding the temporary suspension of Lieutenant Edward Baxter from the Austin Fire Department.
The motion to overturn the temporary suspension of Lt. Baxter was approved on Chair Thomas' motion, Vice Chair Ahmed's second, on a 2-0 vote.
7. Discussion and possible action regarding future meeting dates and times.
Chair Thomas and Vice Chair Ahmed agreed to cancel the meeting on August 14, 2023. The September meeting will be moved to September 5, 2023 due to the holiday.

STAFF BRIEFINGS

8. Report from the Civil Service Office regarding exam processes, disciplinary hearings, and fitness-for-duty actions.
Cyndi Gordon, Civil Service Coordinator, and Sarah Williams, Civil Service Coordinator, delivered the briefing to the Commission.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Vice Chair Ahmed seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a 2-0 vote, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:03 AM.

The minutes were approved at the September 5, 2023 meeting on Vice Chair Ahmed's motion, Chair Thomas' second on a 2-0 vote.